

Minutes of Town of Hague School Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, February 22nd, 2024
10:00 AM Community Center

Members Present: Peter Carney, Jack Bast, Beth Barton-Navitsky, Linda Fusco (via Zoom), Susan Delarm-Sandman (via Zoom), and Town Assessor, David Martucci

Members Absent: Sandy Smith, Amanda Peterson, Kathe Allen, Rolly Allen, Sally Thurston

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Jack Bast, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

The Minutes from the previous meeting held on February 6th were reviewed and approved without amendments or corrections.

Agenda Items:

Prep for Multi-Year Assessment Averaging Presentation:

The Committee discussed the PowerPoint Presentation and possibilities of who would be the best person to present to the Ticonderoga School Board at the March 19th (6:00 PM) School Board Meeting.

Assessor David Martucci joined the meeting from 10:05 to 10:35.

Key points:

- Peter updated the Table 2 numbers in the MYAA White Paper as they have changed slightly due to NYS updates.
- David said the 2024 Hague Equalization Rate will be 97.5% based on the updated 2023 calendar sales.
- We would like to know Ticonderoga's 2024 Equalization Rate as it could be important for the presentation.
- Discussed other municipalities with similar school taxing splits. It was suggested to work with other municipalities and bring this skewed taxing to the Legislature level where there could be a change. At the town level there would be very little to a near impossible ability to change.
- Discussed getting facts out to the public as there is a lot of misinformation circulating.
- Peter emphasized the benefits of MYAA in smoothing out the apportionment process. Also, it's clear from the data that there is room in the assessment processes in both towns for improvement. In particular, it appears that Ti's process undertaxes some high-valued properties. This means the Ticonderoga average or lower-valued taxpayer is being overtaxed,

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Next Steps:

Peter will draft an outline for the PowerPoint Presentation.

Jack will talk to Supervisor Patchett about the presentation.

Jack will confirm with the Ticonderoga School Board that we are on the agenda to give a presentation.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for March 7th, 2024 at 10 AM.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Barton-Navitsky